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death rates from various diseases in selected areas, in cities and in rural districts. The proportion of deaths at all ages (1900) was highest in March; the deaths of children under five were at a maximum in August. For diseases of the respiratory system, the deaths are at a maximum in the colder months, as is usually the case, for obvious reasons. The same is true for diseases of the circulatory system and for diphtheria. On the other hand, for diarrheal diseases, typhoid fever and malarial fever, the maxima come in the warmer months.

R. DEC. WARD.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

THE AMERICAN PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

At the meeting of this society held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, December 28 and 29, the following officers were elected:

President—Professor William H. Howell, Baltimore, Md.

Secretary—Professor Lafayette B. Mendel, New Haven, Conn.

Treasurer—Professor Walter B. Cannon, Boston, Mass.

Additional Members of the Council—Professor A. B. Macallum, Toronto, Canada; Dr. S. J. Meltzer, New York City.

The following new members of the society were elected: Dr. C. L. Alsberg, instructor in biological chemistry, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.; Dr. E. G. Martin, associate professor of physiology, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; Dr. John Auer, fellow of the Rockefeller Institute, New York City; Dr. C. W. Edmunds, lecturer on materia medica and therapeutics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Dr. W. B. Pillsbury, director of the psychological laboratory, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Dr. S. A. Matthews, associate in pharmacology, University of Chicago; Dr. Swale Vincent, professor of physiology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada; Dr. Shinkishi Hatai, assistant in neurology, University of Chicago; Dr. V. E. Henderson, demonstrator of physiology and pharmacology, University of Toronto; Dr. William Salant, assistant in physiological chemistry, Columbia University and fellow of the Rockefeller Institute, New York City; Dr. O. P. Terry, assistant in physiology, St.

Louis University; Dr. C. C. Guthrie, instructor in physiology, University of Chicago; Dr. R. S. Lillie, instructor in physiology, Harvard Medical School, Boston; Dr. J. H. Kastle, chief of Division of Chemistry, U. S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Service.

The scientific proceedings of the society's meetings will be published in the February number of *The American Journal of Physiology*. It is probable that the next annual meeting of the society will be held in New York City during convocation week, 1906-7.

THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The following bills have been introduced in the house of representatives:

December 13, 1905.

Introduced by Mr. Needham, a bill (H. R. 7017) providing for the transfer of certain national parks from the Department of the Interior to the Department of Agriculture. Referred to the committee on public lands.

By Mr. Lacey, a bill (H. R. 7019) for the protection of animals, birds and fish in the Forest Reserves. Referred to the committee on agriculture.

By Mr. Stevens, of Minnesota, a bill (H. R. 7108) to authorize the establishment of fish culture and biology stations in the United States. Referred to the committee on merchant marine and fisheries.

December 18, 1905.

A bill introduced by Senator Teller (S. 2193) for a public building for the United States Geological Survey at Washington, D. C. Referred to the committee on public buildings and grounds.

By unanimous consent upon motion of Senator Cullom, a bill passed in the senate on December 19, to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to establish a Fish Cultural Station in the State of Illinois.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science having decided to hold its next regular meeting in New York City in convocation week, beginning December 27,